

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 098846 TOSEC 110001

41

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:S/S:FVORTIZ

APPROVED BY:S/S:ORTIZ

----- 075503

P 231459Z APR 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 098846 TOSEC 110001

NODIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE APR 23, 1976 FROM TEL AVIV

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2845

NODIS

FOR ATHERTON FROM TOON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EAID IS

SUBJ: TRANSITIONAL QUARTER AID FOR ISRAEL

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 2827, (B) STATE 098270

1. THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE WHICH WAS TIMELY AND HELPFUL.

2. I TOOK THE OCCASION OF MY MEETING WITH RABIN THIS MORNING TO
RAISE AGAIN THE QUESTION OF TRANSITIONAL QUARTER AID, SAYING
THAT I WANTED TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT I HAD UNDERSTOOD HIM CORRECTLY
IN HIS COMMENTS TO SENATOR JAVITS (TEL AVIV 2827)-VIZ., THAT
THE ISRAELI PROBLEM WOULD BE MET IF SUFFICIENT FUNDS WERE ON
HAND TO ENSURE NO DISRUPTION IN MILITARY SUPPLIES. THE PRIME
MINISTER SAID THAT MY UNDERSTANDING WAS CORRECT. HE WANTED TO
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 098846 TOSEC 110001

MAKE CERTAIN THAT FUNDS WERE AVAILABLE FOR THE FINANCING

OF THE WEAPONS AND SPARE PARTS WHICH WERE PURCHASED ON THE OPEN MARKET AS WELL AS THROUGH THE PENTAGON. HE FELT ISRAELI AUTHORITIES SHOULD MEET WITH PENTAGON AND OMB EXPERTS TO ASCERTAIN HOW MUCH ISRAEL NEEDED IN THE YEARS TO COME AND HOW THAT AMOUNT COULD BEST BE FINANCED. HE REALIZED THAT THERE WOULD BE DIFFERENCES, SAY, OVER THE QUESTION OF WHAT WEAPONS ISRAEL NEEDED, BUT HE WANTED THESE DIFFERENCES EXAMINED TOGETHER SO THEY COULD BE RESOLVED. THE IMPORTANT THING IS TO MAKE SURE THAT THERE WAS NO DELAY IN THE DELIVERY OF WEAPONS AND SPARE PARTS IN THE YEARS AHEAD SIMPLY BECAUSE ISRAEL DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY FOR A DOWN PAYMENT AT A SPECIFIC DATE.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WAS PLYESLD TO LEARN THAT WHEN KOCHAV, ECONOMIC ADVISOR TO THE DEFENSE MINISTER, WAS IN WASHINGTON RECENTLY HE HAD HAD A MEETING OF THE MINDS WITH OMB EXPERTS IN REGARD TO THE PREPARATION OF THE BUDGET FOR FY 78. THE ISRAELIS NOW UNDERSTOOD WHAT DETAILS WOULD BE NEEDED AND IN WHAT FORM AND PROCUREMENT SHOULD FROM NOW ON BE ON A MORE ORDERLY BASIS.

4. I THEN RAISED THE SUBJECT OF THE DISAGREEMENT WHICH HAS SURFACED IN THE PRESS ON THE QUESTION OF TRANSITIONAL QUARTER AID AND SAID THAT I HOPED A CORRECTION WOULD BE ISSUED: IT WAS SIMPLY NOT TOLERABLE TO LEAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD RENEGED ON A COMMITMENT. WE HAD MADE IT CLEAR IN JANUARY BOTH HERE AND IN WASHINGTON WHAT ISRAEL COULD EXPECT AND THIS HAD NEVER BEEN MENTIONED IN THE LOCAL PRESS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT EVERY OTHER DETAIL SEEMS TO HAVE EMERGED. RABIN RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT WANT TO REOPEN THIS QUESTION. HE HIMSELF HAD NEVER SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT WAS GUILTY OF A BREACH OF COMMITMENT. I REITERATED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION HAS BEEN PERFECTLY CONSISTENT FROM BEGINNING-I.E., JANUARY 22 WITH DINITZ AND 23 WITH RABINOWITZ, TO EN-I.E., PRESIDENT'S LETTERAZO ALBERT. I FELT IT DESIRABLE TO CORRECT ANY IMPRESSION TO THE CONTRARY. THIS PART OF THE DISCUSSION ENDED WITH AN APPARENT AGREEMENT TO DISAGREE ON THE ISSUE, WITH CONSIDERABLE PUZZLEMENT ON MY PART AS TO WHY RABIN BALKED AT COMPLETING THE RECORD.

5. THIS WAS CLARIFIED IN SUBSEQUENT EXCHANGE WITH IERAN IN WHICH HE TOLD ME THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAD NOT RPT NOT KNOWN UNTIL CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 098846 TOSEC 110001

I MENTIONED IT YESTERDAY THAT WE HAD MADE AN OFFICIAL APPROACH TO THE FINANCE MINISTER ON JANUARY 23 INFORMING HIM OF THE PROPOSED FY77 FIGURES. I SAID I WAS ASTOUNDED TO LEARN THIS, BUT EIRAN REPEATED THAT IT HAD NOT BEEN BROUGHT TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S ATTENTION AND THAT HE HAD BEEN SURPRISED WHEN I REVEALED IT YESTERDAY. I SAIDTHAT IN THAT CASE, WSTHERE MAY HAVE BEEN A GENUINE MISUNDERSTANDING, AND WE AGREED TO LEAVE IT AT THAT.

6. COMMENT: INCREDIBLE AS IT MIGHT SEEM, I HAVE BECOME JUST
FAMILIAR ENOUGH WITH DISARRAY ENDEMIC IN THE SITUATION HERE TO
ACCEPT THAT THE FINANCE MINISTER MIGHT NOT HAVE INFORMED THE
PRIME MINISTER OF THIS IMPORTANT APPROACH WHICH OCCURRED THREE
DAYS PRIOR TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTURE FOR HIS U.S.
VISIT. RABINOWITZ IS NOT THE MOST FORCEFUL OF MINISTERS AND HIS
VOICE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN HEARD AT THE CABINET MEETING WHICH WAS
HELD ON THE EVE OF THE VISIT.
TOON UNQUOTE SISCO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES, CAT-C, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN COMMITMENTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchant0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE098846
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/S: FVORTIZ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760003-0428
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760428/aaaaaxft.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 TEL AVIV 2827, 76 STATE 98270
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 OCT 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRANSITIONAL QUARTER AID FOR ISRAEL
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, MASS, IS, US, (RABIN, YITZHAK)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006